

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF ALABAMA  
NORTHERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA       )  
  )  
  ) CASE NO. 2:19-CR-73-WKW  
  ) [WO]  
CLEDDIE F. STONE                    )

**ORDER**

Defendant Cleddie F. Stone has filed a second *pro se* motion for compassionate release in which he seeks early release or a sentence reduction based upon the “new COVID-19 operational levels” implemented at his federal prison. (Doc. # 61 & Ex. 1.) The motion is due to be denied.

The court “do[es] not dismiss the risk of harm that COVID-19 poses to everyone, including the inmates at [FCI Coleman Low].” *Swain v. Junior*, 958 F.3d 1081, 1090 (11th Cir. 2020) (alterations added). However, “the mere existence of COVID-19 in society and the possibility that it may spread to a particular prison . . . cannot independently justify compassionate release, especially considering BOP’s statutory role and its extensive and professional efforts to curtail the virus’s spread.” *United States v. Raia*, 954 F.3d 594, 597 (3d Cir. 2020) (citation omitted).

Mr. Stone’s threadbare motion fails to establish any “extraordinary and compelling reason[.]” warranting his early release from prison. *See* 18 U.S.C.

§ 3582(c)(1)(A). Accordingly, it is ORDERED that Mr. Stone's motion for compassionate release (Doc. # 47) is DENIED.

DONE this 31st day of August, 2021.

/s/ W. Keith Watkins  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE